

To John Bruce

25 Oct 41

My dear Sir

Thank you, very much, for your approbation of what I sent. I think it was a sort of condescension to relinquish your great scheme for my small plan, and so I have treated it.

I do not think that the Prospectus will be ready quite so soon as you anticipate, but it is all set up, excepting the paragraph I sent you.

Had I seen you yesterday, I could have told you exactly how



the matter stands. The paragraph  
was, an after thought arising out  
<sup>not to be endured</sup> of the absurdity, of which the publish-  
er wished to be guilty, of putting my  
name on the title-page as "Director  
of the Shakespeare Society"

I have no copy of Yarrington's  
play. It is a great rarity: there may  
be one at Oxford, and the Duke of  
Devonshire has one, which I could  
procure for you were he in England.  
However, there is one at hand in  
the British Museum, under the name  
of Yarrington, I think, but I have  
not referred to it for many years. If  
a transcript would answer your  
purpose, I think, indeed I am pretty  
sure, I could borrow one for you.

Unless it were written <sup>considerably</sup> long  
<sup>in 1601</sup> before it was printed, I do not see  
how it could be the origin of the



ballad of the Children in the Wood as  
Percy conjectures, because the ballad  
was in existence in 1595 according to  
Ritson (Anc. Songs I p. c) who is ge-  
nerally to be trusted.

Garrington's tragedy is a very  
remarkable specimen of the combi-  
nation of two plots in one drama  
the plots having no sort of connec-  
tion or relation, <sup>it both being</sup>, as I  
apprehend, real <sup>present</sup> events. I am

My dear Sir

Yours most sincerely

24 Brompton Sq.

J. Payne Collier

Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> 1841.

